

Mr. Jim Zaccaro
310 S. First St.,
Fairbury, Ill 61739

8/23/94

Dear Mr. Zaccaro,

At 81 and in impaired health, I appreciate your letter very much. Thank~~s~~ you for it and for taking the time. Thanks also for the thoughtful~~ness~~ of the SASE.

I feel particularly good about what you said about ~~my~~ writing because the condition of my writing and the consequences have been much on my mind. Virtually everything I published is a rushed first draft and now, when I know my time is so much shorter, I'm still rushing to get as much as I can on paper for our history and, hopefully, for some readers of books rather than ^{of notes} notes or manuscripts.

It is to save~~me~~ a little time that my wife writes those notes, and it does save me time. She also does all the work on getting the books out, and the record-keeping alone takes time, while all I do on that part is make the packages. I could not have done what I have without her!

There are groups of those who say they want to do something but I've not been a member of any of them. In general this is because with some they have objectives with which I do not agree, with others it is because I want no association with some of them.

I believe strongly that those who theorize solution to the assassination and present them as fact deceive the people, having probably deceived themselves first, and they help errant officialdom. Most people are not in a position to decide for themselves whether what they read is true or not, fact or fiction, which is what the theories presented as fact are. And the books that got greatest attention are of this character.

It is fine to seek the disclosure of all withheld records. I filed more than a dozen FOIA lawsuits to do that and I got about a third of a million pages of them. But not a single one of those with all these theories has come here to make a study of them, to use them rationally and responsibly. And I make them freely available to all writing in the field. As even Posner acknowledged. Even though they also have the use of our copier, some have even stolen only copies and pictures of which no other copies remain.

And with all the records now disclosed there is virtually no real study of them. In part this is because the volume alone denies access, in part because it takes so much time and costs so much living away from home, and in part it is because those who dream up their theories and regard them as proven fact as soon as they pop into their heads are, like the FBI in this matter, when faced with what confounds what they've dreamed up.

In addition, a new investigation now would mean what nobody who wants to remain in politics can hope to survive, investigating the FBI. This is not to say they did the ^{killing} job and I know of no reason even to suspect that. Rather it is because they all fell into a lockstep as soon as Hoover decided on the lone-nut assassin conclusion he decided upon

immediately and neither the people nor the institution wants to face that.

It is important, I think, to keep the subject alive and to try to inform the people and for the people to try to inform themselves so that the day may come when the government will be honest with us and so that the people can understand what happened to us then and what it has meant since then.

It is so that as much of it as I can get on paper as is now possible for me that I continue this work, so that when that time comes this much will be available and can be used. While I still have the hope that before then more can be available to more people.

Case Open is about 20-25% of what I wrote. I had Never Again! completed before I wrote Case Open. It could have been published more than a year ago. For reasons that make no sense to me it was not. The last information I had on it is that it now will be published in March, 1995. I wish I could do something about that but I cannot.

When these are the condition of my work, I think you can appreciate that I tell you the truth in saying that I do appreciate your letter.

For which I again thank you. In my mail you are not a minority, and my mail on Case Open is excellent in every way.

If I see no hope for the immediate, I do have hope for the future.

The information you request is enclosed.

Thanks and best wishes,

Harold Weisberg
Harold Weisberg